

THE WEATHER:

Fair and warmer tonight; Tuesday probably fair. Gentle variable winds. Temperature at 8 a. m., 39 degrees.

NUMBER 12,209.

Published week-day evenings and Sunday morning. Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C.

WASHINGTON, MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 3, 1922.

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CALLS THE TIMES

THREE CENTS EVERYWHERE.

The Washington Times

HOME
FINAL EDITION

Three Bandits Try To Hold Up Downtown Bank

WHY WILMETH WAS FIRED

CLEAN-UP IN TREASURY OUTCOME OF CHARGES FILED WITH CONGRESS

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Mystery surrounding the discharge of James Wilmeth, director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and several other employees by executive order was partly cleared up today, when it was learned a large number of charges supported by affidavits, involving the director and many employees of the bureau, had been in the hands of the Department of Justice and members of Congress for several months.

ACTION PROMPTED BY THREATS

A demand for immediate action, under threat of newspaper expose, caused the precipitate action of the Administration. This situation tends to disprove thoroughly the charges of "playing politics" made against the Administration.

Accusations involving the director of the bureau and certain other employees, it was learned today, were filed with the Department of Justice and with members of the House Committee on Finance more than a year ago.

CONGRESS BLOCKED INVESTIGATION.

No apparent action was taken by the Department of Justice.

Members of Congress, seeking to eliminate the abuses charged, were, it is understood, met with insurmountable obstacles in obtaining official action or official co-operation.

Additional Affidavits Filed.

Late in January, 1922, or early in February, 1922, employees of the bureau and public-spirited citizens interested in the case filed further supporting affidavits with the Treasury Department, the Department of Justice and members of Congress.

As a result of this action the Treasury Department ordered an investigation of the bureau management. This inquiry, which was conducted in secret, was made, it is charged, by persons who had long been associated with Director Wilmeth in his work as chief clerk of the Treasury Department.

Apparently no action was taken as the result of the investigation, and it was assumed the bureau was given a clean bill by the investigating committee.

Second Investigation.

Shortly after this additional affidavits supporting the charges against the bureau management were filed with the Treasury Department, Department of Justice and members of Congress.

At this time, it is learned, the charges reached the ears of the President.

President Harding immediately ordered the Secretary of the Treasury to conduct a thorough inquiry into the charges.

Comptroller of the Currency D. R. Crisinger was directed by Secretary Mellon to make a personal investigation.

Again, there was no apparent action resulting from the inquiry. Director Wilmeth continued in office. However, intimations were made that a considerable number of employees were to be discharged by the director. Employees who were concerned in the charges against Director Wilmeth state that most of their number were to be included in the proposed dismissals.

The threatened discharge of these employees, it is believed, led to the summary action forced upon the Administration in the dismissal of the director and many of his assistants.

Summary Action Taken.

Last Thursday employees of the Bureau and others who have made charges against the Director visited Comptroller Crisinger and members of the Finance Committee of the House and at least one member of the Senate.

They stated that unless Director Wilmeth and certain other employees of the Bureau were discharged at once, galley proofs of such astounding abuses at the Bureau would be immediately released for publication.

Treasury officials asked for one week's delay.

This was refused, and twenty-four hours was given for action, with a threat of immediate publication in case no action was taken.

Story in Type.

The galley proofs shown to members of Congress and to the Treasury officials are said to have contained accusations of such astounding nature as to cause Treasury officials to fear for the reputation.

Harry Leon Wilson,
Who Writes Better
Than He Fights



HARRY LEON WILSON
the famous author of "Ruggles of Red Gap," in his first picture following his first fight with Theodore M. Criley, wealthy landscape painter, of California. A feud starting with the production of a community play six months ago in which Mrs. Wilson was chosen as heroine in the play and Criley played opposite her as hero started the fireworks. Criley is said to have had, by all odds, the best end of the battle.

SEN. CARAWAY DEMANDS PROBE OF DISCHARGES

Offers Resolution Citing Civil Service Rules Governing Bureau Employment.

The first move toward a Senate investigation of the wholesale discharge of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was made today.

Senator Caraway of Arkansas introduced a resolution in which he called upon President Harding to inform the Senate why former Director James L. Wilmeth and his bureau chiefs were discharged and also by what authority the sweeping action of dismissing them was taken.

Cites Civil Service Rule.

The resolution calls attention to the fact that civil service employees can be dismissed only on written notice and on formal complaint either as regards efficiency, their moral character, and so forth.

The Senate Resolution.

Senator Caraway's resolution is as follows:

"Whereas, without notice as required by law, and without warning, the President of the United States, under an executive order issued March 31, 1922, dismissed James E. Wilmeth, director of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and thirty-one other chiefs and assistant chiefs of divisions in that bureau; and

"Whereas, all of said persons were within the classified service; and

"Whereas, the law permits a dismissal within the classified service only after written notice and an opportunity to reply to such notice, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to report to the Senate, if he be not incompatible with the public interest, what facts warranted the dismissal of the men mentioned from the classified service, and by what authority he dismissed these employees from the service in the manner followed."

110 CHILDREN MADE ILL

BY APRIL FOOL CANDY

JERSEY CITY, N. J., April 3.—The number of school children made ill here by eating "April fool" candy was fixed by the police at 110.

In two schools children were affected with vomiting spells.

Nationalize Mines, Lewis Asks

BANK YEGG HOTEL MAN CAPTURED BY TELLER OF BANDIT

Bold Attempt by Three Bandits to Rob Merchants' Trust Company Thwarted.

Three arming young robbers shortly after noon today made an unsuccessful attempt to rob the newly-formed Merchants' Trust Company, which today opened offices on the corner of Fifteenth and H streets northwest.

But for the presence of mind of Samuel April, twenty-one-year-old receiving teller, the robbers would have made away with more than \$2,000.

Entering the company's offices about 12:45, the men approached April's cage. One of them reached through the receiving window and grabbed a bundle of money. The trio then fled.

One Bandit Captured.

April seized a revolver and started after them. As April reached the door, he fired three shots in the air. A few seconds' running and he caught one of the would-be robbers, the man who had grabbed the money.

A hurry call sent to Police Headquarters brought a score of detectives and policemen to the bank. An unsuccessful attempt was made to capture the other two men, but it is believed they escaped in a high-powered motor car waiting near by.

5,000 Witness Capture.

Coming in the noon-day hour, the robbery caused a sensation in this thickly populated business section. Fully 5,000 people surrounded the bank and police experienced difficulty in taking the would-be robber to the patrol.

Peter A. Drury, president of the bank, was holding a reception in his office when the men entered. He declined to discuss the attempted theft.

April, the receiving teller, gave a Times reporter this version of one of the most daring attempted robberies in the history of the District:

"The resolution calls attention to the fact that civil service employees can be dismissed only on written notice and on formal complaint either as regards efficiency, their moral character, and so forth.

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HOTEL MAN GETS BEST OF BANDIT

Routs Robber at Hadleigh Apartment by Engaging Him in Conversation.

An attempted hold-up at 2:30 o'clock this morning at the fashionable Hadleigh Hotel was frustrated by the night manager, Charles B. Wells, who called the bluff of a masked robber when he was confronted with a revolver and a demand to "throw 'em up."

The attempted robbery of one of Washington's most fashionable apartment hotels was one of the boldest tried here for some time.

Says He's "Bad Guy."

While bellboys and elevator operators passed to and fro in the lobby, Wells was confronted by the masked robber as he sat behind the counter working on his night receipts.

"Throw 'em up," the yegg commanded, leaning over the counter and pointing his revolver at the night manager.

"Quit your kidding and put that gun away," Wells commanded. "It might go off."

"You're damned right it will go off unless you slick 'em up quick and hand over the cash. I mean business. I'm a bad guy and I shoot to kill. Get me bo? Stick 'em up or I shoot."

"The night manager," stuck 'em up," but laughed.

"You certainly picked a lean night to raid the place," he told the robber. "I haven't got the key to the cash drawer nor the vault."

"Can that stuff," the robber demanded, "and open up the cash drawer."

"If you want the cash drawer opened, open it yourself," Wells told the robber.

As the man behind the counter edged over to a drawer where he kept his gun, the would-be stick-up man, who had gotten up on the counter, dropped back off of it into the lobby, and with his gun still leveled at the manager, again demanded the cash.

"I tell you I haven't got any cash. What there is in the vault and if you want it you'll have to come and get it."

Evidently unimpressed at the challenge, the robber back away:

"Well, I ought to shoot you, but I've got a heart. Now I'll beat it. If you'll just keep still half a second," the robber said, as he turned and fled through a side entrance and down V street.

Grabbing his gun, the night manager, with the engineer of the building, Bradley Snyder, who had been notified by the elevator operator, who, in turn, had heard the robber's command to "stick 'em up," pursued the fleeing figure as he ran from the building, but lost him in the outside darkness.

"The thing was so bold that when first confronted with the gun I thought it was some kind of a belated April fool joke," Wells said.

The attempted hold-up, according to Wells, was the work of an amateur. "Had he been a professional it would not have been possible to have bluffed him as we did," Wells declared. "He was either a novice at the game or was drunk. The man had complained to one of the bellboys earlier in the evening that some corn liquor he had been drinking gave him a headache."

Thousands of dollars in cash and checks were in the vault of the hotel. It is believed that the man must have lived at the hotel at some time or another, and was familiar with the fact that the apartment tenants paid their rent on the first of the month, and probably anticipated a rich haul in cash from this source.

Fredericksburg police have been asked to look out for the robber, it being known that he had inquired of a taxi driver the fare to that place.

Manager Who Foiled
Bandit's Attempt
To Rob Hotel



CHARLES B. WELLS.

KROPOTKIN LAYS RUSSIA'S PLIGHT TO BOLSHIEVSKI

Emma Goldman Tells of Interview in Which Aged Anarchist Flays Soviets.

Emma Goldman, noted anarchist, was deported to Russia in December, 1919, by the United States Department of Labor. After two years of disillusionment and disaster, she has reached Sweden, and has indicted Bolshevism in a series of bitter, stinging articles.

Because of the fact that an anarchist, a woman who has devoted her life to attacking existing forms of government, turns upon the aegis of Lenin with such fury, The Washington Times thinks it worth while to print her views on Bolshevism. Her eighth article appeared yesterday. The ninth article follows:

By EMMA GOLDMAN.

STOCKHOLM, Sweden, April 3.

—During the second visit to Peter Kropotkin we had an hour together. In that time Peter spoke in detail of the Russian revolution, the part played by the Bolsheviks, the lesson to the Anarchists in particular and the world in general. He considered the Russian revolution in scope and possibilities greater than the French revolution. While it is true the people were not developed in the western sense, yet they are more responsive to new arrangements of life. The spirit of the masses during the February and October revolutions demonstrated that they understood the great changes waiting their concerted efforts, and they were willing to do their share.

The people knew that something tremendous was before them, which they themselves must face, organize and direct. That spirit, though now

All the union mines remain idle and at United Mine Workers' headquarters this morning it was declared the strike is still 100 per cent effective in organized mines.

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HEAD OF STRIKERS ASKS CONGRESS TO INTERVENE AT ONCE

The national coal strike of 600,000 bituminous and anthracite miners swung into its full significance today. As Saturday and Sunday were holidays, it could not be determined until today whether the coal strike order had been obeyed by all the union men, and was 100 per cent effective.

President John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers of America, testifying before the House Labor Committee, proposed immediate nationalization of the American coal industry.

NON-UNIONISTS QUIT WORK.

The first break in the ranks of non-union miners was reported from northern West Virginia, where 1,500 non-organized men quit work. In Southern West Virginia and in central Pennsylvania, the non-union mines were still at work.

No disorders of any kind have yet been reported and the union officials have warned the men against violence.

Union officials declared that the men are presenting a solid front and will fight it out along the present line no matter how long it takes.

PENNSYLVANIA MINES IDLE.

Every anthracite colliery in the three districts of Pennsylvania is idle. The first expression of fear that political agitators may attempt to make capital of the strike came out of the anthracite fields.

Another conference of the anthracite wage scale committee and a committee of operators was scheduled for this afternoon in New York city, where the miners are still presenting data to support their demands for a 20 per cent wage increase for contract labor and \$1 a day for day labor.

Non-Union Men Join Strike In W. Va.

By International News Service.

WHEELING, W. Va., April 3.—The first break in operation of non-union mines in the Panhandle counties of West Virginia came today when two mines in Marshall county, between Benwood and Moundsville, suspended operations with the forces joining the strike. The two forces totaled about 550 men. It is reported 1,500 non-union men are idle throughout the district.

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U. S. Control of Mines Asked By Lewis

By International News Service.

Sooner or later the Government must step in, nationalize the coal mines, and operate them for the benefit of the public, and it might as well be now as any time.

This was the message and the advice laid before Congress today by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, when he appeared before the House Labor Committee to present the miners' side of the present strike controversy.

The striking miners, Lewis said, are going to "stand pat" and present an unbroken front, and he advised the committee against attempts to force a settlement through adjustment boards or commissions.

"Industry Is Diseased."

The coal industry, Lewis said, is diseased, and the only remedy is nationalization.

"The mine workers," Lewis declared, "have been waiting for many years, hoping to detect some signs that the operators were awakening to a realization of their duties. But, so far, nothing has been accomplished except talk, and no relief has been extended to the mine workers or to the public."

"No remedy has been offered by the operators, and in default of any other remedy, the mine workers seriously suggest that the Government take over and operate the mines."

"We do not do this through any mischievous or wanton spirit."

"But we see that it is inevitable that, sooner or later, the Government

Girls! Girls! Girls!

If your photograph looks like a picture of Dorothy Dalton, send it to the Dorothy Dalton Resemblance Contest Editor of The Washington Times today. It may mean \$250 worth of Easter finery to you. Some Washington girl is going to get this enviable outfit and if your picture looks like Dorothy's it might as well be you. See page 5 for the details of the contest.

1,000 Out In Klondike.

By International News Service.

UNIONTOWN, Pa., April 3.—The first break in the strong non-union field in southwestern Pennsylvania came today when several hundred miners were persuaded not to go to work. Every group of non-union men headed for the mines in the Klondike region, near New Salem, were met by squads of union men and told to remain home and "avoid trouble." Nearly a thousand non-union men have gone on strike.

District No. 5 Shut Tight.

By International News Service.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., April 3.—Union mines in District No. 5, United Mine Workers, known as the Western Pennsylvania field, (Continued on Page 2, Column 6.)